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CONTACT: Melissa Charles
Artistic Director, DMR Adventures
434-203-6314 (mobile)
DMRAdventures@gmail.com

DMR ADVENTURES TO PRESENT FAMILY MUSICAL, WILLY WONKA KIDS

OPENING JULY 25 AT FRY'S SPRING BEACH CLUB

Roald Dahl's timeless story of the world-famous candy man and his quest to find an heir comes to chocolate-covered life.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA – July 18, 2014 – Take a trip through Willy Wonka's infamous chocolate factory by experiencing DMR Adventures' production of Roald Dahl's *Willy Wonka Kids!* Adapted into a musical with songs from the original 1971 film *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, this version of the 1964 children's book tells the story of the beloved candy man and his search for an heir to his chocolate empire.

Rehearsals for *Willy Wonka Kids* begin July 21 as part of the first Broadway Adventure summer production camp in Charlottesville. Approximately 20 kids, ranging in age from 8 to 13, will learn everything there is to know about putting on a musical in 5 days, according to Melissa Charles, DMR Adventures' Artistic Director.

"Putting together a musical in 5 days is a challenge," Charles said in a press release. "The students learn everything from audition technique to singing, dancing, acting, and design, but the one of the most important components of their experience is the friendships they make and the memories that they'll carry with them forever." A show for the whole family, parents and children alike should enjoy seeing the classic story come to life onstage, according to Charles.

Willy Wonka Kids will be performed at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, July 25 at Fry's Spring Beach Club, 2512 Jefferson Park Avenue in Charlottesville, VA. Tickets are \$5, General Admission, and can be purchased at the door. The running time is approximately 30 minutes. For more information, call (434) 203-6314.

"The DMR in DMR Adventures stands for Dreams Made Real," explains Charles. "Willy Wonka is the perfect choice for our first production in Charlottesville, because it inspires imagination and encourages you to reach for your dreams. My favorite quote from our production is, 'Anything you want to, do it! Want to change the world? There's nothing to it!'"

Charles has over twenty years of professional experience as an actor and choreographer. She moved from Los Angeles to her hometown of Danville, VA six years ago, where she dedicated herself to building community through performing arts. After producing and directing more than 30 shows in the Danville area, opening Danville's first black box theater, and introducing thousands of children to the magic of live theatre, Charles moved to Charlottesville, the home of her alma mater. "We wanted our child to grow up in a place that values the importance of arts and education, and Charlottesville has proven to be the perfect fit."

DMR Adventures recently finished their first camp in Charlottesville for which Charles brought in Broadway performer Brad Bass (*Wicked, Jersey Boys, Memphis*) to teach acting, singing and dancing for four days. "Brad is

an incredible teacher and a great example of the professional training that DMR Adventures will offer here in Charlottesville,” Charles stated. “I am already working to bring him back, as well as other Broadway performers, for a Broadway Masterclass series that will begin in the fall. We were lucky to have both Brad and Anthony Galde (a Broadway vet with over 25 years of experience) perform at our first Broadway & Beyond cabaret at Bon on July 5.” Charles said that DMR Adventures and Bon will continue to partner on more cabarets, including a kids cabaret.

DMR Adventures’ next production will take to the stage this fall, and also centers on a character who successfully reaches for her dreams. *Cinderella, Kids* will be produced November 15 and 16 at Fry’s Spring Beach Club, and the classes that will perform in the production will begin in September.

For more information on DMR Adventures, visit www.DMRAdventures.wordpress.com.

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